

The Middletown Transcript

VOL. 43. NO. 6

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 5, 1910.

PRICE THREE CENTS

Nazareth Portland Cement!

THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR NAVY ARE LAID IN NAZARETH PORTLAND CEMENT!

Used for the bottoms of the following Battleships and Armed Cruisers:

Kearsarge
Kentucky
Illinois
Missouri
Louisiana
Minnesota
Virginia
Delaware

No better *Portland Cement* made in America than the *Old Tried and Reliable "Nazareth."* It has always stood the severest tests of the *Government* and all would-be competitors.

SOLD BY
G. E. HUKILL, Middletown, Del.

Lumber and Coal YARD
G. E. HUKILL
Middletown, Del.
White Pine, Yellow Pine, Hemlock and Cypress. All kinds Building Lumber.
Shingles, Lath and Pickets. Mill Work of all kinds in stock and to order. Building and Agricultural Lime. Woven Wire Fence, Woven Picket Fence, Barb Wire and Plaid Wire.

Best veins of

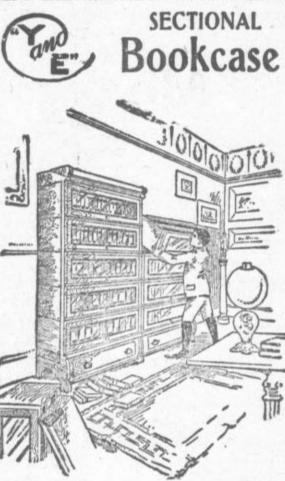
HARD AND SOFT COAL



There are more McCall Patterns sold in the United States than of any other make of pattern. This is on account of the fact that McCall's Patterns are more satisfactory than any other Lady's Patterns. Latest patterns \$1.00. Every subscriber gets a McCall Pattern Book free.

Lady Agents Wanted. Headmen price on application. Patterns Catalogue free. Send for it.

McCall's Patterns Co., 100 Broadway, New York.



SECTIONAL Bookcase

PAYS THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE FOR

ALL KINDS OF Grain

Mr. William Janvier is our Grain Purchasing Agent at St. Georges.

ON HAND AT ALL TIMES HIGH-GRAD BITUMINOUS & LEHIGH

COAL!

SAWED WOOD by the Cord or in small quantities

Lime, Seed, Feed, &c

Just received a carload of Western Oats.

HAVE YOUR

Shoes Repaired

AT

M. DECKTER'S

The best work for less money and done while you wait. I have moved on Broad Street next door to The New Era, in Dr. Vaughan's old office.

Men's Soles and Heels 75c

Ladies' Soles and Heels 65c

M. DECKTER

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

NOTICE—DIVIDEND!

Send us your next order.

Middletown Farms,

Middletown, Del.

Pure Dairy Products

ATLAS PORTLAND CEMENT IN UNITED STATES DEFENCES

COLUMBIA

NEW YORK

PHILADELPHIA

BOSTON

DETROIT

CHICAGO

ST. LOUIS

ATLANTA

MEMPHIS

NEW ORLEANS

HOUSTON

OMAHA

DENVER

SPRINGFIELD

ATLANTA

The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

—AT—

Middletown, New Castle County, Delaware

—BY—

T. S. FOURACRE.

LONG DISTANCE 'PHONE NO. 37.

Entered at the PostOffice as second-class matter

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., FEB. 5, 1910

SOME IMPROVEMENTS

The TRANSCRIPT is pleased to note that the Railroad Company has acted upon two of its suggestions of a few weeks since, viz: the absurdity of refusing to use its steam heating plant and relying on the antiquated coal stove to warm the depot waiting rooms, and the folly of allowing the crumbling facings of its platform to remain a needless peril to passengers. Steam heat replaces the stoves, and the most dangerous of the rotted timbers have been replaced with new ones. The old pneumonia trap of a waiting shed on the south-bound track, open on four sides to the elements, still remains to menace life and health, and when the division fence between the two tracks is built, and timid passengers are forced to resort thither earlier than now when the entire line is open, the chances of discomfort and disease will be even greater.

But it is, after all "up to the citizens" whether the town gets fair or ill treatment from the Railroad Company. Dover is demanding and getting the first kind of treatment; does Middletown intend eternally to sit mumble-chance taking humbly whatever the Company thinks fit to give it? Is it a fair way to treat the traveling public to refuse to furnish such common necessities as water to drink? Ordinarily safe and comfortable waiting rooms? Or rooms lighted sufficiently to permit a waiting traveler to read a newspaper without incurring blindness?

A little light colored kalsomining of the present darkened walls of the waiting rooms, would at any rate double the "dim religious light" that prevails there. It might cost several dollars. From the mere standpoint of looks it would be worth several times the money: for surely the aesthetic is not wholly neglected by the Company, as its floral displays along the line attest.

PARIS FLOOD

The Paris flood broke all records since 1615, the Seine reaching the phenomenal rise of over 31 feet and causing a damage in city and country not less than \$250,000,000, possibly much more! French scientists agree that the excessive timber cutting from the sources of that river and its chief tributaries, the Marne and the Yonne, is the cause of that frightful catastrophe. That deforestation is chargeable with the increasing floods that beyond all instances in ancient days are plaguing the nations, is almost the consensus of the world's experts in forestry. Our own scientific authorities, including that noted expert, Mr. Gifford Pinchot, also hold this view. But the learned Mr. Willis Moore, head of the Weather Bureau, who in his short career has perpetrated more weather fizzes than any two of his predecessors, among them, the famous fiasco of last Inauguration Day, has the nerve to call in question all this array of authorities!

Any farmer examining a wood-ed hillside needs no learned dictum to prove to him the large amounts of water the deep humus, twig and leafy accumulations retain, which also detain the surplus till it slowly descends to fill the ponds and lakes or fertilize the plains and crops.

We, here in America, have had illustrations enough to enforce the wisdom of the advice—"plant trees"—but this cruel disaster to the beautiful French Capital should give the admonition new force.

SLAUGHTER OF MINERS

Within three days as many disastrous mishaps in coal mines have been reported. First came the tragedy of Colorado, followed at once by a similar mishap in Kentucky, and then a day later by an explosion in a mine in Mexico. In Colorado the death list was seventy, according to the figures at hand; in Kentucky thirty-five lives were lost, and in Mexico, the record shows that sixtysix miners were lost.

"This is a very startling showing for one week, and it makes positive the belief that the study of the protection of miners is yet in its infancy. There are mine inspectors and mine engineers, and the use of electricity for light has abolished the old danger of oil lamps. Nevertheless, the annual record of deaths in coal mines seems to be growing. After every mishap there is a

great talk of investigation and a revival of suggestions as to new laws and new methods.

"At best the work of mining coal far under ground is a precarious method of making a living. It involves no end of hardships, at all times fraught with death or injury. But there are always standing ready many men willing and eager to secure the task of digging coal. Laws supposed to regulate the care of mines and the protection of the miners are on the statutes in every state where coal is found.

The inquiry will include an investigation into the cost of the necessities of life, with an especial view to determining whether there has been an increase during the past ten years. It is also desired that it shall cover the question of wages, with a view to ascertain whether there has been an increase in them.

The resolution was referred to the committee on finance, which will report it back promptly. The House inquiry will be conducted by the important ways and means committee.

The Senate committee action is generally interpreted to mean that the Senate leaders hope, by the investigation, to show that the recent tariff bill passed by Congress has not caused high prices of the necessities of life.

The resolution calls for an investigation of the high cost of living by a select committee of five senators to be appointed by the Vice-President and reads as follows:

"Resolved, That there shall be appointed by the President of the Senate a select committee of five senators to investigate the cost of living and the prices of the necessities of life, to ascertain so far as possible whether such prices have increased during the past ten years and the cause or causes of such increase.

"Said committee shall also investigate the subject of wages and ascertain whether wages have increased during the same period.

"Said committee shall also investigate the cost of production of said articles and of their distribution and sale, shall report to Congress the results of their investigation, together with any recommendations and with bills, if in the judgment of the committee, legislation is necessary to regard to the subject of the investigation.

"Said committee or any subcommittee thereof is authorized to employ experts, administer oaths, take testimony, send for persons and papers, employ a stenographer to report hearings and have such printed. And all necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate."

What have the women contributed toward our town? Many, many things, more than can be enumerated in the brief space at command. There was a time in the history of the world, way back in Paul's day, when woman was looked upon with something of disfavor. That was an unchristian era. To-day the situation is vastly different, and instead of woman being inferior to man, she has proven herself to be his equal, if not his superior, in many of the virtues that make for good citizenship.

The women of our town have labored earnestly and long in an endeavor to maintain truth and sobriety in the home, teaching their sons and daughters that there are cardinal virtues, which are to be prized far greater than rubies. They have recognized the fact that home life is the foundation of all life, and that municipal, state and national existence is only as the home-life is pure.

The women of this town have been the silent force, the under current, that has been working so effectually through the years, the result of which has meant the ushering in of social conditions that are extremely wholesome.

While it is true that woman is not always seen, and is often counted out when credit is being given for some achievement, it is nevertheless true that her influence, like a guardian angel, has hovered over the destiny of the people until she has made for herself a place in the world that none other can fill.

The New Century Club of this town is a living example of what woman is doing to broaden the mind of her sex, and in broadening, touch other lives and cause them at least to form some conception of their mission in the world.

If there is any great question pressing for solution, the influence of which is to affect the home-life, the women of our town are ever on the alert to see that it is correctly solved. Thus working, they've formed a nucleus around which have been erected institutions that stand as a living monument in their defense of the home. All hail, then, to the white-souled women of this community!

READER.

NEW JURY DRAWN

Jury Commissioners J. Wilkins Cooch and Harlan G. Scott have drawn the following petit jury to report next Monday:

First District—Henry Braustein, Francis J. McNulty, Thomas Reardon and Bernard Donohoe.

Second—William A. Mode, Thomas K. Porter, Lewis Leshem, Clarence U. Brockton.

Third—J. Bail Peirce, Bayard Genn, Henry Charles and Irving Warner.

Fourth—Charles H. Simmons, William Frederick, Charles Simmons, Jr., and Thomas F. McEvily.

Fifth—Levi B. Church, A. P. Giffing, Edward F. Kane and Harry B. Carter.

Sixth—J. Atwood Weldin, Theophilus Williams.

Seventh—John Frederick and Charles Groome.

Eighth—Harry F. Hobson, Charles A. Hendrickson.

Ninth—George W. Hill and Lewis L. Curtis.

Tenth—Chauncey P. Holcomb and John M. Beck.

Eleventh—William C. Beggar, Zachary Harris.

Twelfth—Edward Lester and John C. Stuckert.

Thirteenth—Edward W. Pleasanton and William McMullen.

Fourteenth—John Townsend and John S. Latton.

Fifteenth—John Wheeler and Abram State.

DELAWARE COLLEGE SPORTS

Coach McAvoy of Delaware College has started a new indoor sport at the college. The gymnasium floor has been laid out for indoor base ball, the first trial of this at Delaware College. By playing this game throughout the winter Coach McAvoy hopes to strengthen the base ball team for next season. Already much interest is being taken in the game by the students and more than 25 boys have turned out for practice.

Since Coach McAvoy entered the college, last year, as athletic trainer a great deal of improvement is noticeable in the athletics of the institution. Although his foot ball team was not a success, last year, this was due to the fact that nearly all the boys were playing their first game of foot ball. This year a great deal of improvement is expected in this line of athletics. The basket ball team has thus far played a good game, winning three out of the five games played.

This is a very startling showing for one week, and it makes positive the belief that the study of the protection of miners is yet in its infancy. There are mine inspectors and mine engineers, and the use of electricity for light has abolished the old danger of oil lamps. Nevertheless, the annual record of deaths in coal mines seems to be growing. After every mishap there is a

PROBE INTO FOOD PRICES

Provides for Select Body With Power to Summarize Witnesses and Experts

WASHINGTON, D. C. February 2d.—Two independent investigations into the higher cost of living will be conducted by committees of the Senate and House.

The first step toward the proposed inquiry in the Senate was taken to day when providing for it. The resolution was introduced at the instance of the finance committee, which fact insures its adoption. It provides for a committee of

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Martha Jones as follows.

Going North—7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
Going South—8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 8 p.m.
For Odessa—7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,
4:30 p.m.
For Warwick, Cecilton and Earville 9:30 a.m.,
and 4:45 p.m.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., FEB. 5, 1910

Local News

If you want Pure Buckwheat Flour you can get it at EVANS' EXCHANGE

Dr. J. Allen Johnson will examine your hens and give estimate without charge.

I pay the highest cash price for all kinds of Fur. W. C. Jones.

All kinds of fresh and salt Meats, Sausage, Scrapple and Lard constantly on hand. W. C. Jones.

A dog supposed to have been made, was killed in a vacant lot on North Broad street by Edward Blome Monday morning.

Highest cash price paid for all kinds of Poultry and Eggs. W. C. Jones.

Royal Society Packet Embroidery—Lingerie Underwear, Dollies, etc. Call and see new catalogue. Mrs. J. H. Emerson.

The regular meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of Forest Presbyterian Church was held on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. George Derrickson, on West Main street.

The Baltimore Sun Almanac for the year 1910 was received at this office last week. The Blue Book, as it is commonly called, is of great importance, and should be in the home of every family.

"From the silk mills direct to you." An examination of Royal Silks will prove to you that our prices are very much lower than those of department or dry goods stores. See samples.

MISS SPRINGER.

Dr. A. S. Mowbray will hold the Fourth Quarterly Conference for Bethel and Summit charge at Summit, this Saturday, morning, at 10 o'clock, and will preach at the same place to-morrow at 3 P. M.

E. H. Beck, Real Estate Broker, has sold the dwelling belonging to J. W. Barnett at North Broad street, to Mrs. J. P. Algire, of Doylestown, Pa., for \$4,750. Mr. and Mrs. Algire and family will take possession in March.

The recently discovered comet in the east and west that is traveling towards the north, although 4,000,000 miles away, has been visible each evening in Middletown for the past week and has been seen by many residents of the town.

The postal officials have barely recovered from a breathing spell from wrestling with the Christmas and New Year's postcards, when they will be called upon to tackle the proposition of a flood of cards for Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birth-day, Valentine's day and St. Patrick's day.

Since the fact has been so amply demonstrated that there is money to be made out of them than a like acreage, in peaches, when the latter fruit was in its prime, twenty-five years ago.

We have in STORAGE several hundred tons of HIGH GRADE LEHIGH and BITUMINOUS COAL. You don't have to place your order before-hand as it is ALWAYS IN STOCK. We have just added to our yard a nice lot of SAED WOOD, Phone 5. Jessie L. SHERPER.

After October first, the Library hours will be as follows: Tuesday, 3:30 to 5; Fridays, 7 to 8:30; Saturdays, 3 to 5. The Library will be open on Tuesday evenings, from 7 to 8:30, for school children exclusively.

Unclaimed Letters—The following list of letters remain unclaimed in the post office for the week ending January 29th: Mrs. Loddie Blair, Mrs. Kate Brown, Miss Hannah Grimes, Mrs. Jamie Pruitt, Miss Mary Walker, Mrs. Eddy White, Mr. Chas. F. Bordner, Mr. George Brown, (dead letter); Mr. John W. Brown, Mr. John T. Human, Mr. Geo. R. VanDyke.

Any subscriber of THE TRANSCRIPT failing to receive the paper regularly each week will confer a favor by notifying us at once. Your paper is mailed every Friday evening and failure to get it may be due to fault in the address. Unless you complain we will not know that you have cause for complaint.

Constantly on hand, all sizes of the best Veins and best prepared Hard Coal, for Heaters, Ranges and Cook Stoves. Clean and full weight. Prompt delivery at lowest prices. Also Cord Wood saved to stove length, \$2.00 for cartload. If you have not been using our coal, try it and be happy. G. E. HUKILL.

Last January ground seeded to wheat was nicely covered by the crop, but this year it is quite different, it is now tinged with yellow markings of the cold weather and meekly lies close to the earth. Farmers of experience think this a better indication for a good crop than if it had made a luxuriant growth during the winter months as did last year.

All subscribers to this paper are requested to look at the address slip on their papers. If your paper is dated January, '00, it means that your subscription is paid up to January, 1909, the first two figures of the year being omitted so that we can get the entire address and date in one line. If your paper is dated August, '10, it means that your paper is paid for up to August, 1910. Dollar bills may be sent by ordinary mail with little or no danger of loss. Please do not neglect attending to your subscription account.

If you take a live interest in your community, a good way to manifest that fact is to send to your county paper any item of local interest that might transpire thereabouts, or if the paper had a local correspondent in your neighborhood, communicate the intelligence to him. THE TRANSCRIPT is always glad to receive news from its readers, and if more persons could be made to realize this fact, the paper would be more interesting.

The sudden rise in the price of muskrat has caused the traps of this season to scurry out since the weather ended with their traps. The severity of the winter, together with the January 1st increase in the tariff on fur, must have sent the price skyward, for now traps can get from fifty to seventy cents each for muskrat furs. These furs brought thirty-eight cents last season. Several years ago the price stood still around fifteen cents.

Mr. John Cleaver has moved into the dwelling on South Broad street, which he purchased several months ago of Mr. William Brockson.

Wednesday was a pretty day of sunshine, and of course his majesty, the groundhog, beheld his profile upon the snow and hid himself back to mother earth, meanwhile calling upon radish to fulfill its duty and cause the elements to visit upon the dwellers of Earth all the rigors and terrors of winter. Therefore, ye dwellers on this terrestrial ball, be ready for what ever may come.

The mid-term examinations of Delaware College began Monday morning and continued during the week. After the examinations are over and spring sets in the boys will commence to get ready for out-door base ball. The coach has been training the boys by playing in-door base ball in the gymnasium and the sport has been taken up quite readily with all the boys.

Mr. Harold and Miss Anna Wilson entertained a few of their friends last Friday evening. Among those from distance were: Miss Grace McFaul, of Wyoming; Mr. McCaskey, of Baltimore, Md., and Mr. Ward, of Delmar. The evening was spent in music, both vocal and instrumental, after which refreshments were served.

The delivery clerk in the country post office has much to annoy him. There is a drummer who wants any letters that may come for him during the next ten days forwarded him at New York; the man who wants to know if a letter was sent to him, must wait until the second floor.

Miss Salis Crossland, of Wilmington, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. J. Bender, near Warwick, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Northrup left on Wednesday morning for Madrid, N. Y., where they were called to the bedside of his grandfather.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Schroeder and little daughter Henrietta left Tuesday for Bethlehem, Pa., where they will make their future home.

Mrs. Joseph P. Comegys and little daughter, of Philadelphia, are spending sometime with Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Brady, near Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Goodhand and two children returned to their home in Brooklyn, N. Y., on Thursday, after a visit with their mother, Mrs. G. W. Naudain.

HYMENEAL

PERSONALITIES.

Miss Ollie Farrow, of Dover, spent Sunday in town.

Capt. and Mrs. W. E. Lee are visiting in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. J. C. Green is entertaining Miss Gallaher, of Danville, Pa.

Mrs. George W. Lockwood is visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Green.

Mrs. George Derrickson who has been quite sick with a cold, is improving.

Miss Miriam Alrichs has been visiting at the home of Mr. J. F. McWhorter.

Mrs. Elizabeth Holten, of Dover, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Julia Holton.

Mrs. W. A. and Joshua Richards, of Newark, were Middletown visitors this week.

Miss Lillie Clark, of Wilmington, has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. George D. Kelley.

Mrs. Carl Harrington and son, of Baltimore, Md., are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Cochran.

Mr. Harry C. Ellison, of Wilmington, was a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. J. H. Emerson, Tuesday.

Mr. John F. Metten, of Philadelphia, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Metten.

Mrs. J. H. Mendenhall, of Wilmington, spent several days of this week with her father, Mr. C. P. Cochran.

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ROBINSON-ROBERTS

A very pretty wedding was solemnized on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Roberts, 21 Lake street, when their daughter, Miss Ada Mae, was united in marriage to Mr. William Edward Robinson, of near Smyrna.

At 1:30 o'clock the young couple took their places in the bay window, in the midst of potted plants, where the ceremony was performed by Rev. Vaughan S. Collins, D. D., pastor of Bethesda E. Church. The wedding march was played by Miss Bertha Jones of this town.

The bride was gowned in white Paris muslin, with satin trimmings and venise lace and carried a beautiful bouquet of white carnations and smilax. The going away gown was of olive green cloth, with white fur hat and muff.

The matron of honor was Mrs. William Walter of Frankford, Pa., who wore white Paris muslin and carried pink carnations.

The best man was Mr. F. Lee Robinson of Philadelphia, a brother of the groom, and the usher was Mr. Victor H. Jones, of Newark, and Mr. Daniel W. Stevens of this town.

After receiving congratulations the bridal party repaired to the dining-room, where the wedding breakfast was served to about one hundred guests by Caterer Gibbe.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson left on the 4:40 northbound train for a short wedding trip, and upon their return will make their home near Smyrna, where the groom is engaged in farming.

WALTERS-PLEASANTON

One of the prettiest weddings of the season will be solemnized this (Saturday) afternoon, when Miss Lois M. Pleasanton will become the bride of Mr. Albert W. Walther of Wilmington. The ceremony will be performed at 3 o'clock, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pleasanton, near Second German Baptist Church, Wilmington, will be the officiating clergyman.

The bride, who will be given away by her father, will wear a beautiful gown of French embroidery trimmed with lace, with a pearl necklace. The wedding veil will be worn and the bride's bouquet will be white roses and lilies of the valley.

The going away gown will be a London smoke French broadcloth, and a white beaver hat with white plume will complete the costume.

SALES TO TAKE PLACE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd, 1910.—Public sale of stock, farming implements, etc., by Alfred J. Davidson, near St. Georges. H. V. Bicknell, auctioneer.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 1910.—Public sale of stock, farming implements, &c., by Scott and Maloney, on the "Ellis Farm," near Townsend. W. H. Reynolds, auctioneer.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1910.—Public sale of stock, farm implements, &c., by C. M. Cochran, on the "Cochran Farm," 1½ miles west of Middletown.

An elaborate breakfast, consisting of broiled oysters, chicken salad, rolls, biscuits, olives, ice, cakes, fruit and coffee, will be served.

Mr. and Mrs. Walther will leave on the afternoon train for a trip to Washington, D. C., and upon their return will make their home in Wilmington where Mr. Walther is engaged in business.

RURAL NEW CASTLE'S INSTITUTE

Teachers of the rural New Castle county schools, in special institute in Wilmington, Saturday, head two addresses by Samuel L. Chew, superintendent of district No. 2 of the Philadelphia public schools. His afternoon subject was "Success in Teaching." In the morning he talked on "The Literary Viewpoint of the Teacher." Eighty teachers were present. At the afternoon session it was announced that the second local institute will be held at Middletown on February 26th. It will be addressed by Professor Wagner of the West Chester Normal School.

First Grade—Annie Lundy, Margaret Ritchie, Pauline Rosenberg, Corinne Vanant, Little Hollis, Rogers Farnace, Clinton Jollie, P. L. McWhorter, Jr., Parker Schuman.

Brown COTTAGE SCHOOL. Eighth Grade—Elizabeth Gibbs, Eva Isolo.

Seventh Grade—Orah Spry, Sarah Kates.

Sixth Grade—Marion Vinyard, Jesse Shepherd, Avery Donovan, Mildred Redd.

Fifth Grade—Ruth Gillispie.

PRIMARY SCHOOL. Fourth Grade—A. Division, Frank McWhorter, Frank Walker, Mildred Vaughan, Odie Gallagher, Ruth Burstan, Rebecca Collins.

Tenth Grade—John Hoffecker, Leah Berkman, Ruby Whitlock.

Ninth Grade—Maud Taylor, Viola Weber, Helen McDowell, Bertha Man-

FOUR CHILDREN PERISHED IN FLAMES

Agonized Mother Looked on and Firemen Worked in Vain

Dover, Del., Feb. 3d.—Penned in the third-story, or attic, of a burning farmhouse like rats in a trap, four children of Mrs. Sarah Tatum were burned to death tonight at the home of Ezekiel Hackett, their grandfather, at "The Corners," between Camden and Wyoming. The accident was the most horrible which has occurred in this section for many years.

The dead are:

Mamie Tatum, aged fourteen years.

Lewis Tatum, aged sixteen years.

Stanford Tatum, aged five years.

Daisy Tatum, aged three years.

The children, with their mother, Mrs. Sarah Tatum, lived with Ezekiel Hackett, their grandfather, at "The Corners," between Camden and Wyoming. The building was a three-story frame structure, though the top, or third story, was merely an attic. There was no outlet to it except one window and the stairway leading from the second floor.

According to their usual custom, the children had retired early and had gone to their beds in the attic described. With them they took a small oil lamp for the purpose of lighting them to bed. They had retired, but whether the lamp was burning or not is not known.

About 10 o'clock Mr. Hackett fixed his fire in the kitchen for the night, and about the same time his daughter, Mrs. Tatum, the mother of the children, said good night to him and started for her bedroom on the second floor.

On reaching the second floor the mother was startled to hear the noise of crackling timber and to smell smoke. Her first thought was of her children, and she rushed for the stairway, only to find it in flames. It was simply impossible to reach the room above.

The screams of the mother attracted Mr. Hackett, and telephone messages were at once sent to Camden and Wyoming for help.

By the time that the firemen from Camden and Wyoming had reached the place the situation was hopeless. The entire upper portion of the building was in flames, and it was impossible to get into the one window of the room from which the flames were belching forth. They made a number of efforts, but each time the ladders were raised and some brave man moved toward the window he was driven back. Time after time the attempt was made, and time after time the result was the same.

While the firemen worked the mother was almost crazed by grief. She imagined that she heard the cries of her helpless children as they perished in the flames, but no one else could hear a sound and were under the impression that the children had been suffocated almost at the start. The grief-stricken mother, however, was compelled to look outside while strong men battled with the fire and were then compelled to give up in despair.

The bodies of the four children were found in their bedroom in the attic. The interior of the room had been burned out and whether they had been suffocated while they lay in bed and died a painless death or had met death while trying to get out through the single window could not be told. The bodies were terribly charred, but it was possible to identify each of them.

CECILTON

Mr. W. H. Brown spent Sunday in Wilmington.

Miss Hylie Bonides is the guest of friends in town this week.

Recreational meetings closed in Zoin M. E. Church Sunday evening last.

Miss Hallie McCullough who has been ill, is slowly improving.

Miss Martha Bailey was the guest of Miss Clara Manlove on Sunday.

Mr. John C. Man

